

ESTEEMED COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

THANK YOU FOR THIS TIME TO SHARE MY CONCERNS REGARDING

ASSEMBLY BILLS 326 AND 421. I WILL ADDRESS THE BILLS TOGETHER, AS THEY BOTH RELATE TO SEXUAL OFFENDERS.

THE PROPOSED BILLS APPEAR TO BE UNCONSTITUTIONAL, DEMEANING AND HARBORING ON THE EDGE OF LUDICRIOUS. THEY ARE NEITHER HUMANE, NOR FAIR. THESE BILLS WILL ONCE AGAIN BE SENTENCING, **NOT ONLY** THE FORMER OFFENDERS, THAT HAVE SERVED THEIR TIME AS DICTATED BY JUDGES, TO A CONTINUED LIFE OF HUMILIATION AND SCORN, **BUT THEIR FAMILIES ALSO. FORGIVE ME, BUT THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!**

I, TOO, WANT OUR CITIZENS SAFE FROM VIOLENT OFFENDERS BUT TO LUMP ~~ALL OF THE~~ SEXUAL OFFENDERS INTO ONE CATEGORY AND HAVE THEIR LIVLIHOODS AND DAILY LIVING PUT INTO JEOPARDY BY HAVING THE TERM **SEXUAL OFFENDER** ON THEIR DRIVERS LICENSES AND WISCONSIN IDENTIFICATION CARDS, IS OUTRIGHT HATEFUL. THE FORMER OFFENDERS WILL NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO CASH A CHECK, APPLY FOR A JOB OR LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, AS GIVEN IN THE CONSTITUTION WITH THIS STIGMA ON THEIR VERY METHOD OF EXISTANCE. HOW WILL HAVING **SEXUAL OFFENDER** ON THE DRIVERS LICENSE AFFECT THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY WHEN HE OR SHE, TRIES TO CASH A CHECK OR PURCHASE FOOD OR NEEDS FOR THE FAMILY? WHAT PURPOSE IS SERVED BY DOING THIS? AGAIN, WHAT NEED IS SERVED BY HAVING THIS STIGMA ON THE DRIVERS LICENSE, WHEN THE DESIGNATED DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE IS FORCED, OUT OF FEAR OF REPERCUSSIONS OF HAVING SAID STIGMA, GIVES A FALSE NAME SO AS TO AVOID THE BACKLASH OF SUCH STIGMA? IT IS AS THOUGH THESE BILLS ARE IMPLYING AN OFFENSE WILL NATURALLY OCCUR IF SUCH NOTICE **IS NOT ON** THOSE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION.

I FEEL ACCEPTING PROPOSED ASSEMBLY BILL # 421, THAT WE **NOT STOP THERE** ON THE HATEFUL ROAD BEING MAPPED OUT BY CERTAIN LEGISLATORS... I WOULD **DEEM IT NECESSARY** TO HAVE ALERTS FOR ALCOHOLICS, DRUNKEN DRIVERS, SPOUSAL

ABUSERS OF ALL SORTS, , FELONS ON THEIR SECOND CHANCE, PROSTITUTES AND THEIR  
JOHNS, ARMED ROBBERS, ILLEGAL ALIENS AND ALSO, ANYONE IN THE CLERGY WHO  
HAS COMMITTED ANY **CRIME**, (NAMELY PORNOGRAPHIC CRIMES) IF THE OFFENSE IS  
**NOT ALREADY** LABELED AS A SEX CRIME.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF MY PROPOSED ALERTS I FEEL NECESSARY ON LICENSES AND  
IDENTIFICATION CARDS THAT SHOULD ALSO HAVE PENALTIES PROVIDED. **WHY STOP**  
**AT SEXUAL OFFENDERS? GOD KNOWS** THAT ANY OF THESE PEOPLE CAN HARM OUR  
VERY EXISTENCE AS LAW ABIDING CITIZENS!

CAN ANYONE TELL ME WHY A DRUNKEN DRIVER, WHO HAS THE CAPACITY OF KILLING  
ENTIRE FAMILIES IN A SINGLE MOMENT, SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY DRANK "A FEW TOO  
MANY", HAS MORE RIGHT TO APPLY FOR A JOB OR CASH A CHECK TO FEED THEIR  
FAMILY , THAN A REHABILITATED SEXUAL OFFENDER THAT HAS SERVED HIS  
DESIGNATED SENTENCE, SET DOWN BY THE JUDGE AND CARRIED OUT BY THE  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS?

**I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOMEONE TO EXPLAIN THIS TO ME.**

MY FAMILY HAS BEEN THROUGH FOURTEEN YEARS OF HUMILIATION, SCORN AND  
RIDICULE BECAUSE OF MY SON'S INCARCERTION FOR HIS CRIME. **WHAT PURPOSE IS**  
**BEING SERVED BY FURTHER HUMILIATION?**

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AS FOR ASSEMBLY BILL # 326, BEING GIVEN BACK YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE IS NOT ONLY  
YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT, BUT ONE OF THE WAYS FOR A REHABILITATED  
OFFENDER ON HIS ROAD TO BECOMING ONCE AGAIN, A PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF  
SOCIETY... HAVING TO CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE WHEN GOING TO VOTE (AND VOTING  
IS TAKING PLACE IN MANY OF THE DISTRICTS ) IS RIDICULOUS AND AGAIN HATEFUL.  
THERE IS **NO PROOF** THAT ANY OF THE MEASURES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS  
ETC., THAT YOU ARE CONJURING UP, PROTECT PEOPLE AND PREVENT CRIMES!!  
WHY DO YOU OVERLOOK, IN YOUR LAWS, THE FAMILIES OF SEXUAL OFENDERS? WHERE  
IS **THEIR RIGHT TO PROTECTION**, WHEN THESE INNOCENTS ARE VERBALLY AND

PHYSICALLY THREATENED, ABUSED AT SCHOOLS AND NEIGHBORHOODS BECAUSE OF THE LAWS AND THE MEDIA TABLOID STYLE PUBICITY SURROUNDING THE OFFENDER AND HIS OFFENSE? REMEMBER, THESE FAMILIES VOTE, AND AS MORE OF THE POPULATION BECOMES EX-CONVICTS, SO WILL THEIR FAMILIES INCREASE, AS WILL THE MEMORIES OF THE INJUSTICES DONE TO THEM BY ELECTED OFFICIALS. LESS THAN 3% OF ALL SEXUAL OFFENDERS RE-OFFEND. THE DANGEROUS ONES WILL RE-OFFEND BECAUSE MONEY IS WASTED ON NOT ALLOWING THE INPLACE SYSTEM TO DEAL WITH WHAT THEY ARE TRAINED TO DO. POLITICIANS NEED TO STOP INTERFERING WITH THOSE WHO HAVE THE EXPERTISE TO KEEP US AS SAFE AS THEY CAN. IF SEXUAL OFFENDERS HAVE PAID FOR THEIR CRIME-ALLOW THEM FREEDOM EARNED BY IMPRISONMENT. I WOULD RATHER HAVE A REGISTERED SEXUAL OFFENDER LIVING NEXT DOOR THEN A DRUG DEALER OR ANY OTHER PERSON I DON'T KNOW ABOUT--AT LEAST I WOULD HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF A SEXUAL OFFENDER. FOCUS ON TREATMENT, NOT ADDING PUNISHMENT TO A COMPLETED SENTENCE. I COME BEFORE YOU TODAY, NOT ONLY FOR MYSELF, A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AS A CHILD, BUT ALSO AS A MOTHER OF TWO VICTIMIZED CHILDREN AND THE MOTHER OF AN INCARCERATED SEXUAL OFFENDER. WEARING MANY HATS RELATING TO THESE ISSUES: I HAVE BEEN, IN THE PAST, AND WILL IN THE FUTURE, BE AFFECTED BY THE BILLS THAT ARE BEING PROPOSED BY THIS LEGISLATURE. THEREFORE, I ASK THAT YOU CAREFULLY WEIGH WHAT IS BEING PRESENTED BEFORE YOU AS YOU PROCEED WITH THESE BILLS, MANY LIVES ARE AWAITING YOUR DECISION.

PATRICIA L. JANSEN  
1411 Weatherstone Trail  
Depere, Wi. 54115  
920-336-2033

**To: WI Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice**

**Re: AB-326 (Requirements for sex offenders on school premises) & AB-421 (Special operator licenses & ID cards for persons registered as sex offenders.)**

From: Ms. Taku Ronsman, 1688 Beaver Dam Drive, Green Bay WI 54304

Email: [tronsman@earthlink.net](mailto:tronsman@earthlink.net)

**October 16, 2007**

Dear Criminal Justice Committee,

I drove from Green Bay to speak to you for 2 reasons:

- 1) Like everyone else, I want to live in a community that's safe for children and their families.**
- 2) I want to be sure the state passes sex offender laws that reflect known "best practices."**

Steve Ronsman, my husband of 19 years, is on the sex offender registry for a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree sex offense he committed 12 years ago. He served 6 months in jail under the Huber law and was on supervision for 6 years. Had he violated supervision guidelines, he would have gone to prison for 5 years.

I'm the one who reported him to the authorities. I was devastated when I learned what he had done. I went to therapy to cope with the situation. It took me several years before I could forgive him. He received 7 years of therapy. He learned empathy for the victim, tools to control unwanted sexual fantasies, appropriate ways to deal with stress, and he regained the self-esteem that he had lost during his childhood.

Maybe some of you think there is something wrong with me that I stayed married to a sex offender. That's what one of the Green Bay aldermen told a constituent, and what some of my neighbors have said about me. But I know staying married was the right thing to do because strong family support contributes to an offender's rehabilitation.

Therapy has transformed Steve. The victim has forgiven Steve, and now all we want is for our family to live a normal life. But that's impossible when the legislature as well as local communities pass punitive, shaming sex offender laws. Society needs to learn to forgive also.

I strive to be a good citizen and to help make our community a better place to live. In addition to volunteering for a variety of organizations, I started a Neighborhood Association and served on the Mayor's neighborhood Leadership council. Last year I was honored in the Bay Business Journal as 1 of 50 people you should get to know. This year, in honor of the Chamber of Commerce's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I was listed as one of 125 people that have contributed to the well-being of the community. I want to continue to make a difference, as well as have my husband serve the community thru volunteering with me. We don't deserve to be the victims of vigilantes that are driven to fear by ignorance that is fueled by punitive, shaming sex offender laws.

## Attention ; Committee On Criminal Justice

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From the desk of Melvin L. Timm  
7065 Woodenshoe Rd  
Neenah, WI 54956

920-720-2288 office and home phone  
920-720-2255 fax  
920-850-9015 cell phone

Dear Committee Members;

Please let me introduce myself and give you a small history of who I am. I am a father of four children and two step children. I presently have custody of my two stepdaughters ages 16 and 14 and my son age 15. My daughter who is 18 recently graduated, but I have raised her and my son since the age of three and one year old respectfully. I was granted custody of them during a hearing with Kathleen Lhost, the Family Court commissioner. I have raised them since that time, first as a single parent for approximately 5 years, and then for the remaining time as engaged and then married father. Also for the past 10 years approximately we have had custody and/or placement of my two stepdaughters. This was done through a court hearing during the divorce proceedings of my now wife, Dana.

I was raised locally in Hortonville by two wonderful parents whose names are Carl and Rose. I had a sister and two younger brothers and was educated in the public education system at Hortonville until I was in seventh grade. At that time my parents noticed a change in my behavior and placed me at St. Matthew grade school in Appleton. Although my parents did not know it at the time, from the time I was in sixth grade I was being sexually assaulted and abused and given sexually explicit material by an older boy in our neighborhood. This resulted in disciplinary actions because of my behavioral outbursts in grade school and then at Fox Valley Lutheran High School. My parents were not aware of my situation because at that time we were being taught in the public school that a new age of sexual freedom was being born and that we were part of it. I believed that my perpetrator was actually my friend and kept our secret. This was further enforced by what was becoming sexually explicit material on television in the form of shows like Laugh In, and movies like One Hot Summer. It was also being enforced by materials that this other young man was giving me such as Playboy, Stag, Penthouse, and a number of sexually explicit reading material. At the age of 17 I join the United States Air Force. During that period of time the demeanor of the military encouraged promiscuous sexual conduct through pictures and sexual reading material on the bases and at the BX. It was also at this time that the military bases also include gambling and alcohol consumption on the base as recreational activities. We were encouraged to use base facilities for these activities.

I was released from the United States Air Force with an honorable discharge. Unfortunately during my enlistment I was married and quickly divorced by my wife. In actuality our marriage was annulled because she lied to me about being pregnant in order to get me to marry her. The unfortunate part of this whole situation is that this marriage was hard fought for and dearly wanted on my part. I had had many previous relationships before this but all had played out badly, due to the fact that my priorities and self-control had been damaged by the sexual abuse of my youth. Most of my relationships were built on sexual activity. As you can imagine that was unhealthy.

Upon my return home I again tried different approaches to relationships and eventually married another woman. Because of both her unfaithfulness in the marriage and mine this marriage much too soon disintegrated and ended in divorce. I was also in was also accused of fathering a child with another woman before I married my second wife, a fact that I later found out was most likely the child of another man with whom she had slept with while we were going together.

You can only imagine my frustration and anger and inability to figure out why I could not hold down a decent relationship. Because I had not been treated for my sexual abuse as a child all of my relationships were upside down and backwards, and I had never gained self-control or an appreciation for other people's feelings and my lack of dedication and its effect on them.

After this marriage failed a number of years went by. People had begun to live together without marriage even though the law said that we had to be married. In the 70s and 80s there was a blatant disregard for law at all levels. There was no enforcement or accountability. So I began developing a number of relationships with a number of different women and live with many of them without being married. As you can only imagine the lack of commitment that these living arrangements precipitated led to a number of failed relationships. This neither help my self esteem or gave me any respect for the women that I was involved with because many times they were the one who initiated these relationships and situations.

At the end of the 1980s I developed a relationship with a woman who called me one evening and was having problems with her family. I was in my mid-30s and she was what I assumed to be 18 or 19 years old and that she had just finished her last year of high school. During the course of the summer we developed feelings for each other and had a number of one-on-one dates, motorcycle rides, we enjoyed movies together and even entertained friends. Unfortunately at the end of the summer during a conversation of what we would do that fall she explained that she was going back to school, but it was not in college. It turned out to be high school.

I was devastated, because I found out that this young lady who I believed to be of legal age had been 15 and just turned 16 in the course of the summer. We broke off the relationship and I almost had a nervous breakdown. I knew I had done things wrong even though our relationship was consensual. It caused me to review my whole life and I almost committed suicide.

Somehow around Christmas time three months later after we had broken up and in the middle of a deep depression, I committed to changing the life. A commitment I have kept.

During the course of a disc jockeying event about two years later, I met a woman who turned out to be the young lady's mother. During the course of that event I explained to her that I knew the problems she was having in her life with men and alcohol and tried to explain to her the tragic effect it was having on her daughter. Little did I know that conversation would lead not to getting her the help that she needed, or the help for her daughter that her daughter needed, but instead would lead to my arrest for sexual assault of the child.

If remember correctly I was charged with nine counts of felony second-degree sexual assault of a child and one misdemeanor. I was convicted on three of the charges and eventually pled guilty to the remaining charges. My sentence was a number of charges run concurrently for three years of prison and one misdemeanor charge of the consecutive five years of probation.

I served my prison sentence without any incidents of misconduct and completed every course and treatment I was asked to, and that was released after nine months 11 days on a three-year bit. My wife left me but I kept true to my conviction to change and I served all my remaining time on probation and again completed all treatments and counseling that were required without incident.

In spite of my conviction, and the associated additional requirements started by the state that have constantly plagued me and my family, and that were not part of my original conviction and sentence, I have married, and gained custody of both of my children, gained custody of my wife's children, successfully run my business, and have obtained the additional treatment I needed to deal with my problems from my sexual abuse. I have not been able to contact the girl that was the victim of my sexual misconduct because of law, and conscience. I do give her credit for holding me accountable and hold no hard feelings towards her, but on the other hand actually have a great respect for what she had to do to get me convicted. Without her courage I would have not gotten the help that I needed to be a whole person and have a successful relationship and raise a family. My biggest regret is that I have not been able to tell her that.

Since the sexual predator laws have gone into effect it has had less of an effect on me than on my wife and on my children. My wife and children suffer more than I do because as a single parent my two children had to stay home and were unable to do any extra activities at school because of my misconduct. Every time I promise my children that when the time was up after so many years I would be able to do more with them the state has piled on additional rules and requirements that has continually inhibited my children from participating as full-fledged citizens and getting the education and the experiences they need in society because of my previous behavior. The question they have always asked is when will it end and why must be

them that are the ones to suffer from this.

The fact of the matter is that the law treats all sex offenders the same, and at this present time gives no incentive whatsoever for any of us to improve ourselves and come and obtain treatment. While I have obtained treatment and gotten better and have lived these 15 years by the letter of the law and without incident, I now will be denied involvement with my grandchildren in school and other activities because I am being unfairly treated and categorized with the worst of the offenders equally. While I suffer it is nothing compared to what my children and grandchildren have and will go through in the future.

All these laws are passed to protect people from further abuse, they do not! Instead these laws break up families and put everyone involved at greater risk of either being abused or being the abuser. My victim like many others received no treatment for the sexual conduct and the sexual abuse. Because of that I can only assume that she like me as either become a victim again or become a perpetrator. In order to be healed victims and perpetrators must come together to reclaim both of their lives. Both victim and perpetrator must be given opportunity and incentives to take treatment to reclaim their lives. The law allows neither!

The fact of the matter is that sex offenders are the least likely of all offenders, and especially violent offenders, to recommit. One has only to go to parole officers, probation agents and social workers to understand that. They have the figures in the documentation. Legislators have continually ignored the resources of the people in the system and the offenders who have managed to get their life on track, when making new laws. The problem is they rely on the media, and emotion to give a knee-jerk reaction to solving these problems. They do not go to scientific data or individuals who actually know about the problem and have been providing solutions to these problems for years in order to make new law. The result has been a legal nightmare. Green Bay Wisconsin and Brown County have recently enacted bad law to give a false sense of security to their communities by barring sex offenders from living there. This does not in any way stop sex offenders from committing sex crimes, it does not heal victims, and it creates a legal nightmare of where to place offenders when they leave jail or prison and need to be re-integrated into society.

If you really want to solve the problem of sex offenders and any offender for that matter you need family support groups, unique community involvement, you need mentors to stand up next to these individuals and help them to restore their values. This does not get done by isolating them as you have done! This does not get done by further punishing them! This does not get done by throwing them back in jail!

We presently have church groups and social groups in the community who are successfully rehabilitating individuals and getting them back into the community only to have their success usurped by these unnecessary and unfair laws. These flawed attempts at security actually create more problems for law enforcement, the community and the families that are trying very hard to heal. What good is it for a victim to see the person locked up forever and never face them. If the victim thought that all the effort they put into bringing this person to justice actually helped heal that person and saved their family from the difficulty they had gone through there would really be some justice. As the law stands now no justice is being done, nobody's getting healed, the system is getting bigger, the victims are being abandoned, the few dangerous criminals are hiding amongst the high number of decent healed men and women who have fought hard to gain their lives back.

I challenge you to a different way of thinking! You have my personal information. My company's motto is "We Fix Stuff!" With that in mind, know that I'm used to taking on difficult problems and issues and also know that I am not afraid to speak the truth. It is only with the truth that we can truly solve problems. Also note that I'm willing to put the hard work in required to help restore the victims and the perpetrators by helping legislators such as yourself correct flaws in the laws that are now on the books and help you draft new laws that actually work. The public is fully aware that our justice system is broken and that we need a new way of doing business. I have a business to run a family to raise, but I am willing to do whatever is necessary to meet you and work with you so they can correct this problem. If we continue on the path that we are on now, society and our families and our businesses and even our country is doomed!

I have contacted some of you and you have failed to answer or become involved, this is a deadly decision for our country and our families. Some of you had said that you don't care about offenders, or that you would send them in a leaky boat to sea, this would only make the problem worse. We cannot deal with this problem by ignoring it or with hate. Revenge has no part in this matter if it's to be successful. We need to put our animosity aside and work together as never before to solve this problem! I hope you will allow

me to be part of it.

I am truly looking forward to meeting with all of you and working with you in the future! I hope you will not disappoint me because I will not disappoint you.

Sincerely Yours;

Melvin L. Timm



# COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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Madison, Wisconsin  
10.16, 2007  
225 Northwest  
State Capitol

## Assembly Bill 326

Comments on pending legislation relating to notification requirements for persons who must register as sex offenders and who are on school premises and providing a penalty.

1. Laws that are already in place concerning sex offenders are readily available to school administrators, thereby making this law a redundant law and have no useful purpose.
2. Schools already have a security system which requires your name, time in, time out and the purpose for each visit. In addition to this, school doors are presently locked and the school has to be notified if any unusual entry is required.
3. This law would effectually bar parents with legal rights to their children and also with legal rights to provide care, comfort and complete access to their children from providing their children with the same. This would hinder healthcare to their children while at school, emergency access for safety to their children, and would hinder all parental rights in regard to their participation in school events involving their children. This raises constitutional interests on behalf of the parents and their children, and would be very problematic in applying this as a law. As taxpaying citizens sex offenders are able to exercise their constitutional rights in helping their children obtained a proper education. This law presents an undue hindrance in the exercise of that right and also hinders the child's right to have his parent enable him to obtain that education.
4. This law would unduly burden school staff and make them legally liable if they allowed a sex offender rightful entrance into an educational facility and an offense occurred during their visit. The effectual outcome of this law would again lock a sex offender from helping his child or her child obtain a proper education because school staff would not be inclined to allow any sex offender to the school for any reason because of that liability.
5. This law is redundant in the fact that in almost all cases sex offenders presently have to notify schools of any participation in any event, and are barred from such events and volunteer situations, that involve a majority of minor children.
6. As proposed is problematic at constitutional levels for both the children and the parents and their right to obtain education as provided by the law and constitutional requirements.
7. As proposed is not based on any research that is repeatable and verifiable that indicates that sex offenders are any more dangerous than any other convicted person, who has completed his or her commitment to society.
8. As proposed is a redundant bill, with redundant penalties. This redundancy puts a high cost to the taxpayers to duplicate a system already provided by sex offender registration and notification and would provide more confusion in singling out the truly dangerous predator and pedophile. This redundancy also takes people away from the primary job of teaching our children and protecting our

children and instead would put them in the position where they would in fact be doing paperwork to duplicate services already provided at a cost that would be better spent at protecting and preventing sexual assault in the first place.

9. As proposed, this law, even though well-meaning and well-intentioned, should be abandoned. It does nothing further than present law provides to protect our children and would take additional money that could be better spent on prevention and education.

10. As proposed promotes hysteria on the part of students and parents in a facility where a parent would exercise his or her rights as a parent to access their child and or participate in any event required by their child to complete their education or to participate in any extracurricular event.

In summary;

We would suggest that in the future before laws such as this are introduced that we truly look into the problem to understand the root causes of sexual assault so that we may prevent them. We should also look into treatment for the victims and the perpetrators, so that society may be better served by restoring victims to a healthy position in life, and restoring the perpetrator to his or her family, the community and the state as a taxpaying citizen who has learned his or her responsibility to the community.

We would also suggest that before such laws are introduced we tap into an untapped resource, and that is the 30 plus percent of sex offenders who have successfully re-integrated into society. We would also ask that the research on criminal rehabilitation of all offenders, the opinion of law enforcement officers, the opinion of parole and probation officers, and victims who have successfully come to terms with both their lives and their offender be integrated to correct both present law and if necessary initiate new law that provides a system and means that restores everyone to society and a healthy and safe manner. Presently victims are left basically untreated and statistics show that if untreated become predators themselves. This is unacceptable. Presently because of **Truth in Sentencing** legislation, recidivism has increased even though the number of convictions to prison has decreased because there is no incentive to participate truthfully in programs that would successfully reintegrate offenders back into society. This is unacceptable.

We would also suggest that any law whether intentionally or unintentionally prohibiting the participation of a parent in the life of his or her child, unless an imminent proven danger exists, leaves a child open to victimization and self-esteem issues. These go hand-in-hand with security and a parent's right to protect his or her child. It is a proven fact that without the participation of both natural parents in a child's life the children suffer and become more prone to victimization. This law actually breaks down the participation of both parents in a child's life thereby again promoting the susceptibility of this child to victimization.

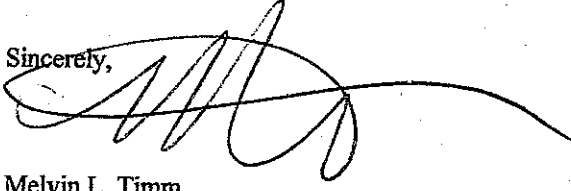
Last but not least, before presenting new laws and further encumbering the system from doing its job, we need to enforce laws are presently on the books. We have laws against fornication, adultery, sodomy, living together or cohabitation and these laws are not being enforced. Many of these are felonies. The reason society has denigrated to such a degree is because as lawmaker is we are not funding or entrusting our officers with the ability to enforce these laws. With a 12% increase per year on each of the previous years of offenders we will soon be out of jail space money and time to correct the problem of sexual misconduct and assault. The fact of the matter is we need to devise a much better and more effective method of treating sex offenders and for that matter all offenders. Almost all sex offenders were victimized and untreated victims. That means in the next 10 to 20 years our responsibility of protecting society will increase exponentially from what it is today unless we more intelligently use our resources and a proven system of restoration which presently exists but is continually hindered by assembly bills such as Bill 326 and Assembly Bill 421. In actual fact sex offenders, when given actual treatment in a timely manner in a facility are less likely to offend a second time than most other offenders. We need to ferret out the eight to 10% of truly dangerous criminals, both sex offenders and other violent criminals, and apply laws such as these to them. We also need to provide an incentive for people to become healed and whole and return to

society, an avenue and a right that is presently denied sex offenders.

We are about to spend \$1.4 billion on our prison systems for the health, housing and treatment of our prison population, while spending less than that on our school system where our children are being educated. We need to re-evaluate our priorities and our resources. If we educate our children properly and bring them up in healthy homes, we will both reduce our need for police, the prison system and take a great load off the justice system. If we treat our victims and we properly rehabilitate all of our offenders, we can reduce our prison load, and our justice system load by up to 90%. This is not unreachable! We just have to realize that we do have a system called the Department of Corrections, not the Department of Revenge or the Department of Vigilante Justice. All human beings are valuable, all human beings are restorable, and the failure to recognize this will be the demise of our society as we see it today.

This opinion is respectfully and thoughtfully brought before you for your consideration. Please contact me at any time for further clarification or for further insight into the situation..

Sincerely,



Melvin L. Timm

920-720-2288 home and office phone

920-720-2255 fax

920-850-9015 cell phone

**Remarks for Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice**  
*Regarding AB 326 – Sex Offender School Visits*  
By Representative Donald Friske  
October 16, 2007

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Thank you Chairman Kleefisch and Committee members. I appreciate your hearing today and scheduling this legislation for your consideration.

Under current law, criminals found guilty of certain sex offenses must register with the Department of Corrections to be listed publicly as a sex offender.

Sometimes, sex offenders are parents and have custody of their children following their sentence and are leading their lives appropriately including involvement in their children's education.

Wisconsin schools are enabled by State law to set appropriate limits for access to school property. One of those limits should be for registered sex offenders. I believe Wisconsin schools should, with additional and reasonable limits, allow parents who are registered sex offenders and whose conviction had nothing to do with child-sex-abuse should be allowed onto school property for legitimate purposes such as parent teacher conferences and volunteering.

This bill will require registered sex offender parents to notify the clerk of the public school or the governing body of a private school prior to entering school property.

The bill only allows registrants to enter the property without prior notification when entering for the purpose of notifying the clerk or governing body as required by the bill. In order to do so, the registrant is required travel directly to the district clerk or governing board.

In order to assure registered sex offenders that are complying with this law are not unfairly targeted, the bill provides an affirmative defense for direct travel to the district clerk or governing board.

An affirmative defense will require the registrant to prove the defense with a "preponderance of the evidence" ... requiring the jury be instructed to find in favor of the party that, on the whole, has a stronger evidence, however slight or strong the edge may be.

I believe this bill is a common sense approach to dealing with the large list of registered sex offenders by providing appropriate access to registrants that do not pose a risk to our children while still providing an assurance of safety to the men and women working within the school halls to keep our children safe.

Thank you again Chairman Kleefisch and Committee members for hearing this bill and I would be happy to take any questions the committee may have.